

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment does not include the introduction of new matter into the present application for invention. Therefore, the Applicant, respectfully, requests that the above amendment be entered in and that the claims to the present application be, kindly, reconsidered.

The Office Action dated September 16, 2003 has been received and considered by the Applicants. Claims 1-12 are pending in the present application for invention. Claims 1-12 stand rejected by the September 16, 2003 Office Action.

The Office Action objects to the format of the specification. The Applicant respectfully declines to add section headings because there is no requirement to do so under the provision of MPEP 608.01(a).

The Office Action rejects Claims 1-6 and 9-12 under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,720,686 issued to Westwick (hereinafter referred to as Westwick). The Office Action states that Westwick discloses an amplifier as recited by the rejected claims including a feedback compensation terminal for outputting a preterm fraction of said output signal to reduce stray feedback of said output signal. The Examiner cites common mode feedback amplifier 20 as evidence of the anticipation of the present invention by the cited reference, Westwick. The Applicant would like to, respectfully, point out that common mode feedback amplifier 20 of Westwick maintains the output common mode voltage at a predetermined reference value, which referenced value is given as analog ground V_{AG} (see column 3, lines 23-26 of Westwick). Common mode feedback amplifier 20 is also discussed on column 2, lines 56-65 of Westwick, wherein feedback resistors 17 and 19 are connected to the negative inputs of feedback amplifier 20 and the positive input to feedback amplifier 20 is connected to analog ground V_{AG} . The Applicant would like to, respectfully, pointed out that the common mode feedback amplifier 20 disclosed by Westwick, does not perform the same function as the feedback compensation terminal recited by the rejected claims to the present invention. Moreover, there is no disclosure, or suggestion, for outputting a predetermined fraction of said output signal so as to reduce stray feedback of said output signal as recited by the rejected claims within disclosure of Westwick.

The Applicant would like to, respectively, point out that common mode feedback

amplifier 20 as taught by Westwick, has feedback resistors 17 and 19 connected together at the negative input of common mode feedback amplifier 20. The positive input to common mode feedback amplifier 20 is connected to an analog ground reference. The output of common mode feedback amplifier 20 controls the common mode output voltage for both the positive and negative outputs of differential amplifier 14. The Applicant does not concur that the feedback amplifier 20 as taught by Westwick, can be read on the amplifier circuits recited by the rejected claims to present invention. The rejected claims to present invention recite a feedback compensation terminal for outputting a predetermined fraction of said output signal to reduce stray feedback within the output signal, which is fundamentally different from the function of the common mode feedback amplifier 20 discussed by Westwick. The feedback compensation terminal recited by the rejected claims to present invention reduces stray feedback, or simply put, stray capacitance. As illustrated in FIG. 2 of the present invention, the feedback compensation terminal is connected to the input with a capacitor 13 between the input and feedback compensation terminal. As previously stated, the common mode amplifier 20 of Westwick does not operate to reduce stray feedback of the output signal.

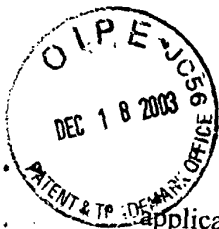
Moreover, the rejected claims to present invention recite that the feedback compensation terminal outputs a predetermined fraction of the output voltage to reduce stray feedback. This voltage that is output by the feedback compensation terminal recited by the rejected claims is clearly shown in FIG. 3 of the present invention. The output of the common mode amplifier 20 disclosed by Westwick, is internal to the differential amplifier 14 of Westwick, and is used to control the levels of the positive and negative outputs of the differential amplifier 14 taught by Westwick. The common mode amplifier 20 disclosed by Westwick does not output any signal outside of the differential amplifier 14 as disclosed by Westwick. Accordingly, this rejection is, respectfully, traversed.

The Applicant would like to, respectfully point out that in the rejection to claim 3 the Examiner states that the said reference, Westwick, does not explicitly disclose the function of the fraction recited by rejected claim 3. However the Examiner has rejected claim 3 to present invention is being anticipated by said reference, Westwick. In order to sustain a rejection for anticipation, each and every element within the rejected claims

must be found in that reference. In the Examiner's own words, all the elements of rejected claim 3 of the present invention are not found within the cited reference, Westwick. Therefore, this rejection based on anticipation, cannot stand and is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action rejects Claims 7 and 8 under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Westwick as applied to Claim 2, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,545,959 issued to Lida (hereinafter referred to as Lida). The Applicant would like to respectfully point out that Claims 7 and 8 depend from Claim 2, either directly or indirectly. Therefore, because Claim 2 is believed to be allowable, Claims 7 and 8 are also believed to be allowable.

Applicant is not aware of any additional patents, publications, or other information not previously submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office which would be required under 37 C.F.R. 1.99.



In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the Applicant believes that the present application is in condition for allowance, with such allowance being, respectfully, requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop: Non-Fee Amendment, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on: December 16, 2003

(Mailing Date)

James D. Leimbach

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